

EVAN H. JENKINS
THIRD DISTRICT, WEST VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4803

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Mr. Aaron Ringel
Deputy Associate Administrator for Congressional Affairs
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 3426 WJC
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Mr. Ringel:

Thank you for your participation in our King Coal Highway stakeholder status meeting this week. As you are well aware, the King Coal Highway is a key transportation initiative representing hope and opportunity for southern West Virginia. It would be difficult to overstate the importance of getting this project completed.

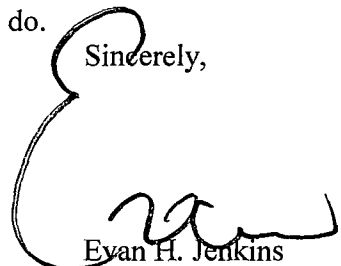
The Buffalo Mountain site, in particular, is a critical segment of the corridor that would be constructed at reduced cost to taxpayers due to its unique public-private partnership. The economic benefits, including thousands of direct and indirect jobs, increased state and county revenue, and construction of hundreds of acres of developable land for future economic diversification, would provide a shot in the arm for our hard-hit coal communities.

I want to especially thank you for taking the time to coordinate and participate in this meeting. I know that you have to address many other priorities, and I believe your attendance sent a strong signal to our stakeholders that the EPA is committed to King Coal Highway's success. It was undeniable that there is a new outlook at the agency, and I am very appreciative of Administrator Pruitt's support.

My takeaway from the meeting is that every entity – federal, state, local, and commercial – is engaged and committed to getting King Coal Highway back on track. I will continue to work in good faith to bring all of our partners together to collaborate in a constructive manner and move ahead with this roadway. I look forward to turning the productive dialogue that we established into direct action on King Coal Highway. Rest assured, I am available at your convenience if I can ever be of service or assistance in this matter.

Thanks again for all you do.

Sincerely,


Evan H. Jenkins
Member of Congress
OFFICE MISSION

"To ensure the people of the Third Congressional District of West Virginia have the greatest opportunity to live free and prosperous lives by serving, communicating, protecting and representing them in a professional and caring manner."

